(2) the amount spent in the years 1102, 1103 and 1104 on such pupils in the way of stipends, etc.?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(1) 313.

(2)	1102	..	Rs.	127— 5 — 6.
	1103	..	,,	223— 7—11.
	1104	..	,,	291—14—10.

Construction of a bund across the Varandarappilli river.

307. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.— (1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether petitions were received regarding the construction of a bund across the Varandarappilli river in 1101; if so, will a copy, of the endorsement of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer (letter C. No. 1701 of 1101) be placed on the Table;

(2) whether the petition was sent to the Chief Engineer for enquiry; and if so, will a copy of his remarks (letter C. 2344/01) be placed on the Table;

(3) whether the Panchayat passed resolutions regarding the putting up of the said *chira*; if so, what were the resolutions and the exact place where they wanted to put up the *chira* ;

(4) whether there was a request from the people of Nandipulam, etc., dated 28th Vrischigam 1102, for putting up the *chira* in Survey No. 60 of Nandipulam village; if so, will a copy of the order of the Diwan Dis. 3724/D/02, dated 4th August 1927, be placed on the Table; did not the order specifically state 'the request for putting up a new bund in Survey No. 60 of Nandipulam village cannot be granted';

(5) in what Survey number was the *chira* afterwards put up ;

(6) the exact date when the *chira* was put up in each of the succeeding years with the name of the contractors and the dates when the *chira* gave way or cut open;

(7) whether the Panchayat represented at any time that the *chira* was not to be put in that place;

(8) whether the Panchayat prepared estimates and whether the Superintendent gave contracts without the knowledge of the Panchayat to any contractor; if so, the name of the contractor and the amount?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.— (1) Yes. A copy of letter, dated 22nd February 1926, C. No. 1701/01 from the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer is placed on the Council Table.

(2) Yes. A copy of the Chief Engineer's remarks C. No. 2344/01, dated 18th June 1926, is placed on the Council Table.

(3) Yes. In 1100. The Panchayat resolved to put up the *chira* in Survey No. 599 of Varandarappilli village.

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(4) Yes. Copy of the Diwan's order is placed on the Council Table.

(5) The exact Survey No. is not known. In 1102 and 1103 the *chira* was put up at Karayampadam Thottumugam and in 1104 above Kanathodu.

(6) A statement giving the information is appended. (*Vide Appendix I.*)

(7) Yes.

(8) The Panchayat prepared estimates, and in 1102 and 1103 the works were done through the Panchayat; but in 1104 the works were given on contract to Trikkunnapurath Krishna Wariar and Puthusseri Ayyappan Nayar by the Superintendent as the President of the Panchayat did not arrange for the works and expressed his inability at the last moment. The amount of the contract for the *chira* in Varandarappilli was Rs. 300 and for that in Nandipulam Rs. 250.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—(5). I wanted to know where the bund was put up. In the Diwan's Proceedings it was stated that the *chira* should not be put up in Survey No. 60. I wanted to know where that *chira* was put up against the Diwan's Proceedings, and the answer is it is not known.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I do not know the exact Survey No. I know that certainly the *chira* was not put up in the place where it has been ordered that it should not be put up.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I wanted to know the Survey No. The Diwan, in his Proceedings, insisted that the *chira* should not be put up in Survey No. 60, and I understand that the *chira* was put up in Survey No. 60. I want to know why it was put up in No. 60; or if not, where it was put up, and the answer is Government do not know the exact number.

President.—Is there any difficulty to know the Survey No., especially when the question pointedly draws attention to Survey No. 60? You must be able to say whether it is No. 60 or not. What is the difficulty to ascertain that?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Is it in the year 1102, 1103 or 1105?

President.—You may have had to put up *chiras* in 1102 and 1103. The order was passed in 1102.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The sites of the *chiras* have been shifted downwards to meet the requirements of the villagers of Nandipulam and Muppiliyam. The *chiras* at the present sites serve the purposes of all the people along the river. I do not believe that it has been put up in Survey No. 60.

President.—Are you in a position to say that it is not put up in Survey No. 60?

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Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I cannot say. Survey No. 60 is the river.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—It is in the river that the *chira* has been put up. This Survey No. is not the river. They recommended some other Survey No. to put up this *chira*. But this was put up in No. 60. I wanted to know the exact Survey No. where this *chira* was put up. They say they do not know.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The *chira* has been put up in the river.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—If Survey No. 60 is the river, there is no meaning in the D. P. here. The *chira* cannot be put up in 60. From that it is clear that it is not the river.

President.—On what do you rely for the D. P.? Is it referred to here?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The D. P. is that it should not be put up in No. 60.

President.—Unless they disobeyed that order, the *chira* would not have been put up in No. 60.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The back papers are not here. I cannot give the information now.

President.—A question has been put. That will compel you to inquire about the matter.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What was the estimate prepared by the Chief Engineer for putting up that *chira*?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—It is Rs. 500 every year.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know what was the amount of the Panchayat?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Rs. 300 and Rs. 250.

Mr. T. A. Ramachanda Ayyar.—The estimate of the Panchayat President and not the Panchayat Superintendent. The Chief Engineer recommended Rs. 500. What was the estimate?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Formerly there was only one *chira* in Varandarappilli. The bund has been so put up that the width of the river was covered. There was no necessity for such a big *chira*. There were complaints from the people that they also wanted water. So two similar *chiras* were put up. The total expenditure was Rs. 550. So far as I can see, there was no complaint from the locality. If we put up a *chira* at Varandarappilli at Rs. 500, it might benefit a few people. There is no justification in allowing a few people to raise the *puncha* crop and not allowing water to others. That was why two *chiras* were put up at Rs. 550.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was not the report made after careful investigation? The report is:—"In returning the petition herewith, I have the honour to report that the houses of the petitioners on the sides of this river and the wells attached to these houses get dried in the hot weather when the river dries up. The beds of all these wells are rock-bottomed in almost all cases and further deepening by rock blasting is beyond the means of these poor petitioners. The necessity of putting up a bund across the river seems to be very essential in view of the fact that the river and level of the water in the river will be raised and the wells would subsequently retain sufficient quantity of water during summer and the people can avoid the use of dirty and stagnant water of the river for drinking purposes. The probable cost of putting up the bund at the Veluthedankadavu where the river has the shortest breadth will amount to nearly Rs. 500. I would, therefore, recommend that this request of the petitioners may be granted and the bund put up this year, the expenditure being taken out of this year's allotment." This was the report made by the Chief Medical Officer. And the Chief Engineer says:—"With reference to endorsement, dated.....I have the honour to inform you that my Assistant Engineer, after having personally inquired into this question, endorses the views expressed by the Chief Medical Officer, also reports that this will solve the water scarcity problem in these areas." These reports were made after careful investigation, and they say that the people of Varandarappilli will be greatly benefited, and not by working the *puncha* crop by keeping water in the wells. I want to know whether these reports were made without any investigation. Is it for *puncha* crop only that the bund is put up?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—In the first place there is no justification for such a costly bund as the one referred to. There was no difficulty for water during the last two or three years all along the Kurumali river. Now the bund put up will serve the purpose, and the expenditure is also quite reasonable.

President.—You will bear in mind the nature of the questions put. What the Hon'ble Member wanted to know was whether the reports of the Medical Officer as well as the Chief Engineer and the Panchayat President were submitted without careful investigation. Why don't you say that they were submitted after careful investigation?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I may point out, for the information of the House, that there are nearly half-a-dozen *chiras* in Kottenkode, Illikkal, Munayam, and other places. The maximum that is spent is Rs. 400 at Munayam, Rs. 300 at Kanathodu, Rs. 325 at Illikkal and Rs. 350 at Kottenkode. The stream at these places is very wide as lower down.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—But deeper.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes. If you want to raise a bund up to the level of the garden lands, there is no point in spending all the money.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In Appendix I, it is said that the date is not known. I wanted to know when the *chira* gave way. The *chira* was not put up in the proper place, and so it gave way very early. That is why I asked the date.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The *chira* did not give way in 1104. It bursts only after the monsoon. The water in the river rises and the *chiras* burst. I cannot say on what particular date.

President.—So the *chira* remained intact till the monsoon.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Were there not complaints that the *chira* gave way?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Not in 1104. Probably in 1102.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Why did not the Panchayat undertake the work? May I know the reasons?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The President told me at the last moment that it was not possible to carry out the work. The reason they stated was that the amount was not sufficient.

Maharaja's College.

308. **Mr. Thomas Manjuran.**—Will the Government please state:—

(a) the total number of students in the College Department of the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam;

(b) how many of them are Cochin State subjects;

(c) how many of them are permanent residents of Ernakulam;

(d) how many of them are residents of Mattancheri, Palluruthi, Kumbalangi, Edaccochi, Venduruthi, Perumanur, Thevara, Vyttila, Trippunittura, Palarivattom, Kalur, Vaduthala, Mulavukad, Vallarpadom, Ochanturuttu, Azhikkal, and other villages, within a radius of 7 miles of Ernakulam;

(e) is there actual want of room in the College buildings; if so, for what all purposes and how many square feet of extra space, approximately, will satisfy the entire requirements;

(f) what is the area, in square feet, of the ground floor and first floor of the building that is now used for the High School Department;

(g) what was the cost of this latter building;

(h) has the Government tried to ascertain if they could easily get another site to put up another building for the High School Department;

(i) has the Government tried to ascertain how far away from the Colleges themselves are the play grounds of the Christian College, Madras, St. Joseph's and S. P. G. and National Colleges, Trichinopoly; the Arts and Science Colleges, Trivandrum;

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APPENDIX 1.

(Vide Answer to Question No. 307.)

Statement.

Year	When the chira was put up	When the chira gave way or was cut open	Name of contractor
1103	6—6—1103	After the 23rd of Mithunam	The work was done departmentally by the Panchayat through Bhadran Naicken
1104	In Makaram	Date not known	The Minor Irrigation Overseer, Central Division, through contractors, Trikkanna Purath Wariath Krishna Wariar and Puthusseri Veettil Ayyappan Nayar

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